

Kentucky Labor Cabinet

LABOR WORKS

Greetings

As we begin 2010, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year!

I would also like to say "thank you" for all of the hard work and dedication you have given during 2009. Certainly, we have all experienced difficulty during these economic times. There is much to be said for folks who stick together and work together displaying outstanding team effort. We have much for which to be thankful, and I want to commend you for a job well done during this past year.

As most of you are probably aware, that beginning in 1976, I had the rare opportunity to observe the inner workings of state government and had a substantial amount of exposure to each cabinet and its employees, including their

work habits. I can say without any fear or contradiction that the employees of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet are the most conscientious employees within the Commonwealth and are very aware that it is the taxes paid by all Kentuckians that enable each of you to have the highly responsible jobs that you hold.

It is my hope that 2010 will bring bright, new beginnings for the Kentucky Labor Cabinet. However, from all indications, our fiscal situation will more than likely take a little longer to recover. believe that no matter what challenges we may face, we will rise to the occasion.

Thanks for a job well done. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Secretary J.R. Gray

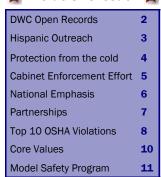


Secretary J.R. Gray 🕍



Our cabinet has recently completed it's 2010-2014 Strategic Plan. It will be available at our website beginning January 15, 2010. In this edition, you will find our new mission, vision, and core values.

🗼 Inside this issue: 🎍



Our mission is to administer Kentucky's workplace standards and workers compensation laws through education, mediation, adjudication and enforcement, in order to promote safe, healthful and quality working environments for employees and employers; to foster cooperative relationships between labor and management; and to promote fair compensation.



DWC Open Record Requests

DEPARTMENT OF WORKERS' CLAIMS TO IMPLEMENT PRE-PAY PROCESS FOR OPEN RECORDS REQUESTS

The Open Records staff within the Department of Workers' Claims has the responsibility of responding to requests for claim and first report information pursuant to KRS 61.872(2). Requests for prior claim history are received from a variety of outside parties, including attorneys, insurance carriers, employees, employers, Social Security Administration and the general public.

The Open Records Section has modified the manner in which constituents remit payment for Requests to Inspect Public Records. The current process allows a written request, either via fax or mail, to which Open Records responds by copying and mailing the requested records to the specific entity. Previously, Open Records might then mail an invoice at the end of the month to some requestors. Effective January 1, 2010, requested copies will be mailed only after receipt of all fees, including the cost of postage, as provided in KRS 61.872(3).

Beginning January 1, 2010, all requests will be reviewed by Open Records staff and a written estimate of the total cost will be mailed, e-mailed or faxed. Once payment has been received, records will be mailed. Requests may be hand delivered, faxed to 502-564-5732 or mailed to the attention of Open Records, Department of Workers' Claims, 657 Chamberlin Avenue, Frankfort, KY 40601. Records may be picked up (with prior approval) or will be mailed to the individual or requesting party. Please note that **no first reports or other requested documents will be faxed from this agency.**

Department of Workers' Claims Commissioner Dwight Lovan congratulated Paula Hampton and Carol Hughes on the completion of the Kentucky Certified Public Management Program. Paula has been working as a Specialist in the Pikeville field office for the past 12 years. Carol Hughes



Paula Hampton, Commissioner Lovan and Carol Hughes

A graduation ceremony was held on Thursday, December 17, 2009, at Kentucky State University for those individuals successfully completing the pro-

is currently the

Rehabilitation

has been a state

employee for 14

and

Supervisor

years.

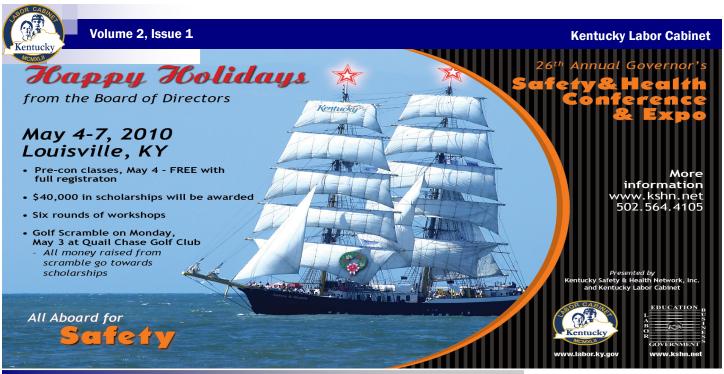
gram.

Census 2010

The 23rd United States Census will be the next national census in the United States. The census has been conducted every 10 years since 1790, as required by the <u>United States Constitution</u>, with the previous one completed in 2000.

The Census Bureau will no longer use a separate long form for the 2010 Census. In previous censuses, one in six households received this more detailed form asking for detailed social and economic information. The 2010 Census will use only a short-form asking basic questions, such as name, gender, age, date of birth, race, ethnicity, relationship, and housing tenure. Some individuals have raised privacy concerns over providing this additional personal information

Detailed socioeconomic information collected during past censuses will continue to be collected through the American Community Survey. The survey provides data about communities in the United States on a yearly basis rather than once every ten years. A small percentage of the population on a rotating basis will receive the survey each year, and no household will receive it more than once every five years.



Cabinet Hispanic Outreach Services

The Kentucky Labor Cabinet has demonstrated its commitment to all Kentucky working citizens by providing Spanish services and resources to employees and employers of the Commonwealth.

Dianet Valencia, our Hispanic Outreach Coordinator, has been working with our community to promote equal laws for all working men and women in Kentucky. With this objective in mind, we have been updating all our brochures as well as our prevailing wage publications into the Spanish language.

Now, employees and employers will have direct access to questions and answers for the non-English speaking community, regarding employment standards, wage hour, prevailing wages, child labor, and apprenticeship.

"The Labor Cabinet has witnessed a significant increase in wage and hour violations against Latino workers by employers failing to pay the minimum wage and overtime after 40 hours," said Labor Cabinet Secretary J.R. Gray. "In the past three months the Labor Cabinet has demanded wages for over 250 Latino workers amounting to well over \$1 million in unpaid wages.

We will continue educating our community on the many issues relevant to Kentucky, as we emphasize both enforcement and voluntary compliance for employers.

You can contact our Hispanic Outreach Services by phoning (502) 564-3070

OUR VISION

To be a fair, aggressive, national leader in ensuring safe, equitable workplaces and in promoting cooperative labor-management relationships;

To advocate quality working environments and fair compensation in the workplace;

To have a highly-skilled, trained, and committed workforce, equipped with the latest technology to ensure the responsible administration and prompt delivery of Labor Cabinet services.



Federal/State Coordinators Office

Protecting Those Who Work in Cold Environments

It is obvious that cold weather has gripped the state and is most likely here to stay for the next three (3) months, give or take a bit! While the vast majority of employees go to work each day to a warm or other heated environment, it is important to remember workers in industries such as construction and agriculture who brave the outdoor conditions and face the hazards of exposure to the cold. With technologies that permit construction and agricultural work to continue in the winter months, employers of these individuals must be aware of the hazards associated with working in a cold environment.

Some common harmful effects of cold include the following conditions:

Trench Foot: A harmful effect associated with prolonged exposure to a cold wet environment or immersion of the foot in water.

Frostbite: A condition that occurs when skin tissue freezes, causing ice crystals to form between the cells.

Hypothermia: A condition that occurs when body temperature falls to a level where normal muscular and cerebral functions are impaired. This may occur at temperatures well above freezing.

Chilblains: A condition that occurs when damage to the capillary beds is caused by repeated exposure to cold temperatures. The damage is permanent and is marked by itching and redness of the skin which returns with repeat exposure to cold temperatures.

Engineering controls, including but not limited to, the shielding of work areas from windy conditions, providing a heated workspace or break area, and insulating equipment handles, aid in the prevention of the harmful effects of cold. Implementing work practices that allow employees to take extra work breaks, ensuring that employees remain hydrated, and allowing for adjustment to the cold before working a full schedule can combat the effect of cold weather. Training employees to recognize the symptoms of cold-related stresses is a critically important administrative tool that employers can utilize to protect their employees. And finally, the use of personal protective clothing consisting of at least three (3) layers will help provide adequate insulation from the cold temperatures. Remember to protect the extremities since those are the first body parts affected by winter weather conditions.

This article only skims the surface of information related to the hazards of cold work environments. For more information on symptoms and treatments for the harmful effects of cold, as well as work practices that an employer should consider, please visit:

http://www.osha.gov/Publications/osha3156.pdf;

http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/coldstress.

Copies of this newsletter, along with statutes, regulations, statistics and any other information regarding the Kentucky Labor Cabinet can be found on our website at:

www.labor.ky.gov



Cabinet Enforcement Efforts

The Kentucky Labor Cabinet is taking enforcement of the "prevailing wage" to a new level. The Division of Employment Standards, Apprenticeship and Mediation has recovered more than a million dollars in unpaid wages for hundreds of construction workers working on public projects in the past three months. The Cabinet has also filed a lawsuit against a high profile drywall company and will be directly challenging the use of alleged subcontractors for prevailing wage avoidance. A judgment against the company could result in "debarment" under KRS 337.990 where the contactor would be ineligible to work on any public project the Commonwealth for up to two years. David Suetholz, the General Counsel for the Cabinet, emphasized "It is the duty of the Labor Cabinet to safeguard public funds on construction projects. If the public pays a wage rate that is supposed to support families and it does not make it to the worker and his or her family, we have failed. It will not be for lack of effort though." The Cabinet is preparing at least two more "prevailing wage" cases to litigate in circuit courts.

The Cabinet is also wrapping up firefighter incentive pay disputes around the Commonwealth by working with both cities and firefighters and their Unions to amicably resolve the disputes. Several cities and their firefighters have settled their disputes and merely a handful remain. The cases that cannot be settled amicably are being pursued by the Cabinet in litigation.

\$420,000 Penalty Assessed by Cabinet

A Lexington company has received ten citations for safety violations with an adjusted penalty of \$420,000. TSP Co. Inc., has a long history of violations with the Labor Cabinet's Division of Safety and Health Compliance (KyOSH Compliance) with regard to scaffolding safety. The fine reflects the Cabinet's growing frustration with the company's disregard for worker safety and regulations administered by the agency.

"The Division of Safety and Health Compliance has issued to the company a number of citations in the past 11 years, all of which have been ignored. The size of these cumulative penalties show we mean business and we will take every step necessary to force the company to cease these dangerous practices," said Labor Cabinet Secretary J.R. Gray.

One inspection in 2003, two in 2004 and two in 2007 yielded scaffolding violations that were again cited in this most recent inspection, according to KyOSH Compliance Director Susan Draper.

"Some of the violations are being issued for the second and third times," said Draper. "What is troubling is that TSP has not paid any of its assessed penalties nor has it provided any violation abatement documentation."

The Labor Cabinet has filed liens against TSP for more than \$49,000 in unpaid penalties and the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General has filed complaints in five counties this year in an effort to help facilitate penalty payment.

"They basically are ignoring these citations, liens and civil complaints," said Secretary Gray. "This larger penalty is warranted and necessary to serve as a deterrent to a company that has essentially ignored its obligation to provide a safe workplace for its employees and is ignoring the laws of the Commonwealth."

You can find all of Kentucky's Workplace Standard Laws at labor.ky.gov or lrc.ky.gov



2010 Compliance National Emphasis Programs

OSH Compliance is participating in two new National Emphasis Programs (NEPs) during 2010 and has elected to continue to participate in another one. The new NEPs are PSM Covered Chemical Facilities and Injury and Illness Recordkeeping; the continued NEP is Petroleum Refinery Process Safety Management.

The Injury and Illness Record keeping National Emphasis Program (RK NEP) was adopted in Kentucky on November 1, 2009, and will terminate one year from its adoption date. Recent studies have indicated that low injury and illness rates reported by establishments may not be the result of safe and healthful workplaces. This NEP is designed to target underreporting in various industries.

The Office of Statistical Analysis will provide a list of establishments to be inspected according to calendar year 2007 OSHA Data Initiative data and will include public sector establishments in state plan states. Kentucky inspections under the RK NEP will be limited to establishments listed in the NAICS codes listed in the table below and NAICS 311615 Poultry Processing and NAICS 115210 Support Activities for Animal Production employing 40 or more employees and a reported DART rate less than 4.2. No more than five establishments will be selected under this initiative and some may be construction. VPP and SHARPS participants are excluded from inspection as are office-only locations.

PSM Covered Chemical Facilities National Emphasis Program was adopted in Kentucky on November 1, 2009, and will be effective for one year. This NEP is designed to reduce or eliminate the workplace hazard associated with the catastrophic release of highly

Industry	NAICS	2007 DART
Animal (except poultry) slaughtering	311611	8.1
Scheduled passenger air transportation	481111	8.1
Steel foundries (except investment)	331513	7.9
Other nonferrous foundries (except die-casting)	331528	7.6
Concrete pipe manufacturing	327332	7.5
Soft drink manufacturing	312111	7.3
Couriers	492110	7.3
Manufactured home (mobile home) manufacturing	321991	7.1
Rolling mill machinery and equipment manufacturing	333516	7.1
Iron foundries	331511	6.7
Nursing care facilities	623110	6.2
Fluid milk manufacturing	311511	6.1
Seafood canning	311711	6.1
Marine cargo handling	488320	6.1
Copper foundries (except die-casting)	331525	6
Bottled water manufacturing	312112	5.9
Refrigerated warehousing and storage	493120	5.9
Motor vehicle seating and interior trim manufacturing	336360	5.8
Pet and pet supplies stores	453910	5.7

hazardous chemicals. In Kentucky these inspections will be unprogrammed which means when KYOSH receives complaints, referrals, accidents and fatalities, and the process is covered under the Process Safety Management (PSM) standard; the inspection will be conducted under this notice if no PSM inspection has previously been conducted.

Extended Petroleum Refinery Process Safety Management National Emphasis Program was adopted in Kentucky on November 1, 2009, and will be effective for an indefinite period. This NEP is designed to reduce or eliminate the workplace hazard associated with the catastrophic release of highly hazardous chemicals. Kentucky will identify all petroleum refineries in the Commonwealth operating under SIC 2911 and create a master list. Establishments known to be out of business, an approved participant in Kentucky's Voluntary Protection Partnership Program and establishments already inspected under this NEP will be deleted from this list.

Links to the three NEPs are found below:

2009 - 09/30/2009 - 09-08 (CPL 02) - Injury and Illness Record keeping National Emphasis Program (RK NEP)

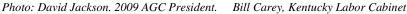
2009 - 08/18/2009 - CPL 03-00-010 - Petroleum Refinery Process Safety Management National Emphasis Program

2009 - 07/27/2009 - 09-06 (CPL 02) - PSM Covered Chemical Facilities National Emphasis Program



Partnerships











Cabinet Employee Named AGC "Person of the Year"

Bill Carey is the Construction Partnership Program (CPP) Administrator for the Kentucky Labor Cabinet's Division of Education and Training. He has been with the Cabinet since 2002. Bill worked ten years in commercial construction prior to coming to the Cabinet in 2002 and also worked as a Safety Compliance Officer for five years prior to becoming the Construction Partnership Administrator. Bill is currently involved in Partnerships with the UPS Hub project in Louisville, EKU, Moorhead as well as working with Messer and Turner Construction on several large projects. Bill is also currently administering partnerships with AGC of Kentucky, NAWIC, and E.ON U.S. In addition, Bill has been instrumental in helping Kentucky attain the Voluntary Protection Partnership for Construction as a state program.

"Bill winning this award is just another indication of the hard work he does and how he is recognized and respected throughout the construction industry in Kentucky. Bill is a great asset to the Labor Cabinet and he continues to help construction companies and the construction industry statewide recognize the importance of safety on the jobsite and make safety a value rather than an afterthought." Danny Vernon, Program Branch Manager.

Labor Works is a quarterly publication of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet, 1047 U.S Highway 127 South, Suite 4, Frankfort KY 40601. Phone 502-564-3070

For submissions and suggestions, please email: mike.donta@ky.gov

No information published herein should be construed as substituting for policy directives sent through regular channels to personnel.

If you would like your name added or removed from our mailing list, please visit our website at labor.ky.gov and choose the "subscribe to our newsletter" link.

FREE

Population Center Training Schedule

Coming in February 2010

Watch our website for announcements

Labor.ky.gov

These training series are presented by the Labor Cabinet at NO COST to the participant. Please visit labor.ky.gov for more information.



Top 10 OSHA Violations

TOP 10 Standard Violations

1 Scaffolding - General Requirements

Top 5 sections cited

1926.451 (g)(1) – Failure to provide fall protection

1926.451 (b)(1) – Failure to provide adequate platform construction

1926.451 (e)(1) – Failure to provide proper access

1926.451 (c)(2) – Failure to support scaffolding properly

1926.451 (g)(4) – Failure to install guardrail systems properly

2 Fall Protection - General Requirements

Top 5 sections cited

1926.501 (b)(13) – Failure to provide fall protection in residential construction

1926.501 (b)(1) – Failure to provide a guardrail, safety net or personal fall arrester system

1926.501 (b)(10) – Failure to provide fall protection on low slope roofs

1926.501 (b)(4) - Failure to ensure walking/working surfaces, including skylights, are free from hole hazards

1926.501 (b)(11) – Failure to provide fall protection in steep roofs

3 Hazard Communication

Top 5 sections cited

1910.1200 (e)(1) - Failure to develop and maintain a written program

1910.1200 (h)(1) – Failure to provide training

1910.1200 (f)(5) - Failure to ensure every container of hazardous chemicals in the workplace is labeled, tagged or marked

1910.1200 (g)(1) - Failure to have a Material Safety Data Sheet for each hazardous chemical

1910.1200 (g)(8) - Failure to maintain in the workplace copies of Material Safety Data Sheets

4 Respiratory Protection

Top 5 sections cited

1910.134 (c)(1) – Failure to provide a written respiratory protection program

1910.134 (e)(1) – Failure to provide medical evaluation to determine employees ability to use a respirator

1910.134 (c)(2) - Failure to provide respirators to employees who request them or permit employee use of their own respirator

1910.134 (f)(2) – Failure to ensure an employee using a tight-fitting respirator is fit tested prior to initial use, whenever a different respirator face piece is used and at least annually thereafter.

1910.134 (d)(1) – Failure to provide appropriate respirators based on respiratory hazards

5 Lockout/Tagout

Top 5 sections cited

1910.147 (c)(4) – Failure to develop, document and utilize procedures for the control of potentially hazardous energy

1910.147 (c)(6) – Failure to conduct periodic inspection of the energy control procedures

1910.147 (c)(7) – Failure to provide training on the energy control program

1910.147 (c)(1) – Failure to establish a written lockout/tagout program

1910.147 (d)(4) – Failure to properly apply lockout or tagout device

Labor Works Kentucky Labor Cabinet



Top 10 OSHA Violations

6 Ladders

Top 5 sections cited

1926.1053 (b)(1) - Failure to extend a portable ladder at least 3 feet above the upper landing surface to which the ladder is used to gain access

1926.1053 (b)(4) – Using ladders for a purpose other than for which they were designed

1926.1053 (b)(13) – Using the top of a stepladder as a step

1926.1053 (b)(16) - Failure to mark portable ladders with structural defects as such or withdraw them from service until repaired

1926.1053 (b)(22) – Employee carrying an object or load that could cause him or her to lose balance and fall

7 Electrical - Wiring Methods

Top 5 sections cited

1910.305 (b)(1) - Failure to effectively close conductors entering boxes, cabinets or fittings, and protect from abrasion

1910.305 (g)(1) - Failure to use flexible cords or cables properly

1910.305 (g)(2) – Failure to properly use flexible cords or cables and identify them as a grounded conductor or an equipment grounding conductor to distinguish from other conductors.

1910.305 (b)(2) - Failure to provide appropriate covers for pull boxes, junction boxes and fittings

1910.305 (a)(2) - Failure to properly apply temporary wiring instructions

8 Powered Industrial Trucks

Top 5 sections cited

1910.178 (I)(1) - Failure to ensure truck operator is competent and has completed appropriate training and evaluation

1910.178 (l)(4) – Failure to provide refresher training and evaluate the effectiveness of that training to ensure employee operates the powered industrial truck safely, or failing to evaluate each operator at least once every three years

1910.178 (l)(6) – Failure to certify that each operator has been trained and evaluated

1910.178 (p)(1) – Failure to take defective or unsafe trucks out of service

1910.178 (q)(7) – Failure to examine powered industrial trucks before placing them in service

9 Electrical - General Requirements

Top 5 sections cited

1910.303 (b)(2) - Failure to install or use equipment in accordance with factory instructions

1910.303 (g(1) – Insufficient access or working space provided to permit ready and safe operation and maintenance of electrical equipment

1910.303 (g)(2) – Failure to guard live parts

1910.303 (b)(1) – Failure to ensure electrical equipment is free of recognized hazards

1910.303 (f)(2) - Failure to indicate disconnecting means of each service, feeder and branch circuit

10 Machine Guarding - General Requirements

Top 5 sections cited

1910.212 (a)(1) – Failure to provide one or methods of machine guarding

1910.212 (a)(3) – Failure to guard at point of operation

1910.212 (b) – Failure to anchor fixed machinery

1910.212 (a)(5) – Failure to guard blades

1910.212 (a)(2) – Failure to affix guards to machines





Top 10 OSHA Violations

TOP 10 - 'Serious' Violations

Standard

- 1. 1926.451 Scaffolding General Requirements
- 2. 1926.501 Fall Protection
- 3. 1910.1200 Hazard Communication
- 4. 1926.1053 Ladders
- 5. 1910.147 Lockout/Tagout
- 6. 1910.134 Respiratory Protection
- 7. 1910.305 Electrical Wiring Methods
- 8. 1910.178 Powered Industrial Trucks
- 9. 1910.212 Machine Guarding

1910.303 Electrical – General Requirements

TOP 10 'Willful' Violations

Standard

- 1. 1926.652 Requirements for Protective Systems
- 2. 1926.501 Fall Protection
- 3. 1926.451 Scaffolding General Requirements
- 4. 1926.651 Specific Excavation Requirements
- 5. 1910.146 Permit Required Confined Space
- 6. 1910.147 Lockout/Tagout
- 7. 1910.132 Personal Protective Equipment
- 8. 1910.119 Process Safety Management
- 9. 1910.212 Machine Guarding
- 10. 1926.1101 Asbestos

CORE VALUES

Integrity: To perform our duties ethically, impartially, professionally and consistently

Accountability: Being ethically, fiscally, and professionally responsible in accordance with statutory and regulatory parameters.

Service: To utilize our resources efficiently and competently to meet the needs of those we serve in a respectful and courteous manner.

Innovative: To be adaptable and creative in our pursuit of continuous improvement in the delivery of our services.

Commitment: Being dedicated to performing our duties to the best of our abilities while striving for continuous improvement to fulfill the Cabinet's mission.

Transparency: To promote public confidence and trust

Volume 2, Issue 1 Kentucky Labor Cabinet

Kentucky

Model Safety Program Wins Special Certification for Winchester Company

A Winchester company has received a special award for the extraordinary measures to ensure the safety and health of its employees.

The Kentucky Labor Cabinet presented UNIVANCE INC., a manufacturer of forklift transmissions, ATV shift differential units, and ATV and motorcycle axles and prop shafts, with a plaque signifying the company's certification under the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP).

Labor Secretary J.R. Gray presented the award to company president Takahiro Mikami, Plant Manager Steve Patrick and Human Resources Manager Sandy Barber.

"It's not easy to become SHARP-certified," said Secretary Gray. "Companies must be thoroughly assessed by Kentucky occupational safety and



health consultants, have injury and illness rates below national averages for its industry, and maintain a safety and health program that involves all employees in finding and correcting existing or possible future hazards as they develop."

The injury and illness rate at UNIVANCE INC. is below the national average for the industry. The company, thus far, has surpassed more than three years without a lost-time accident.

UNIVANCE INC., established in 1995, employs 39 individuals who strongly believe in putting safety first when it comes to their jobs. Today, the Winchester manufacturing facility became the 10th active company in Kentucky to attain SHARP certification. The U.S. Department of Labor designed SHARP to encourage and recognize excellence in occupational safety and health among small employers – those with 250 or fewer workers – in "high hazard" industries. Although companies must meet federal standards for the program, the Kentucky Labor Cabinet presents the award because Kentucky has had its own federally approved Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) program for over 20 years. UNIVANCE INC. has been working toward SHARP certification for a couple years and plans to continue improving safety at its Winchester plant facility.

SHARP certification is good for two years and then, can be renewed. A company is exempted from scheduled OSH compliance inspections during the certification period.

Editor: Other companies currently having SHARP certification include: Uncle Charlie's Meats, Richmond; E.D. Bullard Co., Cynthiana; Multicorr, Inc., Louisville; Federal Mogul Maysville, Maysville; Washington Penn Plastic Co., Frankfort; Maker's Mark Co., Loretto; Hendrickson Truck & Suspension Co., Lebanon; American Woodmark, Monticello and Zappos.com Co., Shepherdsville.

If you have newsworthy related content you would like to see included in our quarterly newsletter or on our website, please contact Mike Donta at mike.donta@ky.gov or (502) 564-3070.